

Inside Sonora

November/December 2005

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A Publication Of The Office Of Neighborhood Coordination



**Albuquerque Firefighters Give The Children
Of Sonora A Hands On Demonstration
at National Night Out 2005**

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"Dedicated to Providing Information About City Government and
Increasing Communication Between Neighborhood Associations."



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS/NEW OFFICERS

The Office of Neighborhood Coordination "welcomes" new presidents of neighborhood associations and says a "special thank you" to outgoing presidents. Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to the improvement of the life-style of your neighborhood.

Neighborhood Association

Crestview Heights
Executive Hills HOA
Glenwood Hills
Story Rock HOA
Supper Rock

"Welcome" to Incoming President

Matt Forslund
Kate Olsberg
Steve Ciepiela
Tasha Perea
Carol O'Keefe

"Thanks" to Outgoing President

Colleen White

Rick Jackson

Jack M. Harris

- Crestview Heights Neighborhood Association regained their "Recognized" status on November 7, 2005.
- Wildflower Area Neighborhood Association regained their "Recognized" status on November 8, 2005.

Just a Reminder: We will need the original Annual Report AND a copy of the announcement of your Annual Meeting submitted to our office **before** your Annual Report will be approved for the year. Please call Dalaina at 924-3906 for further information. Please make sure that you have the correct addresses listed for your officers on your Annual Report. Annual Reports for the following months are due:

September Annual Reports are due: December 1, 2005
October Annual Reports are due: January 1, 2006
November Annual Reports are due: February 1, 2006

ATTENTION: When submitting your yearly Annual Report please mail to our physical street address below:

Planning Department/Office of Neighborhood Coordination
Attention: Dalaina Carmona
600 Second Street NW, Rm. 120 (Basement Level)
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Attaching Flyers, Posters, Etc. To Mail Receptacles

Recently our office received a phone call from the United States Postal Service (USPS) in regards to a few neighborhood associations located in Albuquerque placing flyers or newsletters on mail receptacles in their neighborhood boundaries.

With the permission of the USPS we are printing the following information that should be given to any of your "delivery persons" of neighborhood association newsletters or flyers.

According to the USPS website <www.usps.gov> in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section - it states the following:

"Can a flyer/envelope be put in someone else's mailbox without being mailed? What if a stamp was placed on it?"

Postage **must go through** the Postal Service™ and be delivered for it to be valid postage and therefore acceptable in the mail receptacle. A flyer cannot be placed in a mailbox after putting a stamp on it unless the item was actually mailed.

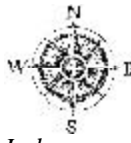
"No part of a mail receptacle may be used to deliver any matter not bearing postage, including items or matter placed upon, supported by, attached to, hung from, or inserted into a mail receptacle. Any mailable matter not bearing postage and found as described above is subject to the same postage as would be paid if it were carried by mail." (Section 3.1.3 Use for Mail – DMM 508 Recipient Services).

The key to this statement is in the term "postage" which is defined as: **payment for a delivery service** that is affixed or imprinted to a mail piece, usually in the form of a postage stamp, permit imprint or meter impression.

If you have any questions, please refer them to your local Post Office™.



Across The City



Metro Court

*Submitted by Judith Nakamura, Chief Judge,
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court*

Ignition Interlock Monitoring: Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court Faces a Funding Challenge

(There has been recent media coverage about efforts to monitor first-time DWI offenders sentenced to install ignition interlocks on their vehicles. The new law went into effect last summer. Now, the court is struggling to keep up with an estimated 3000-3500 defendants a year who will have to be monitored.)

In February, the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court established an Ignition Interlock Compliance Unit consisting of three full-time employees, who are working to monitor what has already been a tidal wave of DWI offenders ordered to install an ignition interlock. These offenders are not on "the honor system" and we are doing our best to ensure they never are by seeking the resources necessary to keep and expand the compliance unit.

The Court anticipated the need for monitoring ignition interlock orders and went to work to obtain the resources necessary to create the compliance unit late last year. We asked for and obtained, with the assistance of Governor Richardson, a \$175,000 Traffic Safety Bureau grant late last year, but that money will run out in March, 2006. The unit's original intent was to monitor the defendants convicted of a second and third DWI offense who, prior to June, were required to install an interlock. In June, a new law went into effect mandating first time offenders to install the device. It was never anticipated that the grant monies would be utilized to monitor compliance of first time offenders.

The compliance unit's task has not been easy. Judges are ordering all defendants convicted of DWI to install the interlocks. Further, many judges are even ordering defendants to install the device pre-trial, as a condition of release. The Court has developed a database and implemented systems to monitor the defendants. In addition, we are working with vendors who install ignition interlocks to ensure the Court is provided with timely compliance verification. Internally, the Court has done all it can to effectively monitor compliance. We have been the leader amongst all New Mexico Courts in ensuring compliance and are only limited by the resources we have been given.

Our proactive efforts to monitor defendants have borne fruit. Prior to February, with defendants on an "honor system" compliance was miserable. The compliance unit's early results show that more than 70 percent of the defendants ordered to install the interlock have done so. The compliance unit works to verify that those who have failed to install the interlock have a legitimate reason for not doing so. But our compliance officers are fighting an uphill battle. Their case loads, accumu-

lated since February, now exceed more than 500 defendants each. They are overwhelmed.

There is a monthly probation fee that could be charged to each defendant. That sounds like easy money for the Court to tap into. Not so. That fee, by law, goes to the State Corrections Department, not to the Metropolitan Court. We have focused efforts on obtaining more resources to extend and expand the Compliance Unit. We have done analyses, projections and made requests. Bernalillo County doesn't have funding for us, either.

We can make this work well, given the resources.

Nob Hill Business Association

P.O. Box 66/2118 Central Ave. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

What: 11th Annual Nob Hill Holiday Shop and Stroll

When: Thursday, December 1, 2005, 5-10 p.m.

Where: Nob Hill Business District
between Girard and Washington

(Central Avenue will be closed to automobile traffic)

Benefit: Salvation Army

Contact: Beverly - 268-7449

Join participating Nob Hill merchants and restaurants in a good, old-fashioned holiday celebration complete with strolling, carolers, luminarias, musicians, refreshments, and St. Nick, too! Find that special gift, taste the wonderful offerings of Nob Hill bars and restaurants, and gather together with neighbors and friends in the historic Nob Hill neighborhood. Come help us create the magic!



Hispanic Cultural Center

Feast of Guadalupe Concert & Celebration

Sunday, December 11, 2005 at 2 p.m.

Albuquerque Journal Theatre
located in the

Roy E. Disney Theatre Complex
Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 Fourth Street SW
Tickets \$10 adults/\$8 children, students, seniors
(no member discount)

This event commemorates the appearance of the Virgen de Guadalupe to the Aztec Juan Diego on the hill of Tepeyac, outside Mexico City, in December of 1531. The Feast Day of Guadalupe is traditionally celebrated on December 12 in Mexico, as well as by Hispanic and Native American Catholics in the United States. The concert will feature music composed in honor of Guadalupe, from the 16th century to the present; the NHCC is partnering with local theatre, dance, and musical groups on this event. Call **246-2261** for more information.



NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP

ACROSS THE FENCE

Leadership In Sonora HOA

Submitted by Jim Myers, President
Sonora Homeowners Association

I have come to really admire George Washington. Not because he is considered the Father of our country. Not because he was chosen as the first President of the United States. Not even because he had an Albuquerque Street and Middle School named after him. I admire him because of his character – specifically his political un-ambitions. In short, he vowed that he would not be President for life. He would serve as our nation's leader as needed and then return to his beloved Mt. Vernon where he would live out his days as a gentleman farmer, serving publicly and returning to private life quietly. His was humble leadership, given this was the man who led our country to self-governing freedom and democracy.

The principle of serving publicly and returning to private life is seemingly a rare one these days. Many of our national leaders are professional public servants with multiple law and political science degrees.

Neighborhood and homeowners associations allow us the opportunity to go retro-political. It's a chance to see how representative government operates at the sub-atomic level. It's really how our government, in its purest and least complicated sense, was formed. Associations bestow the honor of serving our gentlemen (and gentlewomen) "xeriscapers" to make our neighborhoods better places to live, work and play.

Even at the neighborhood level, as elected leaders, we are obligated to lead. Leaders are never mired in the middle of a pack. When a race driver leads, he's in the front. When a cowboy leads, he's in the back of the herd. Although each position is different, both are leaders. In front, the leader sets the vision; in back, the leader drives everyone towards that destination. Good leaders can and should assume both positions, fostering trusting relationships while traveling in between.

I'm no expert on the political scene. Perhaps I'm a lot like you. I have a job, kids and house. What separates you and me from many of our neighbors is our additional interest in keeping our neighborhoods safe, friendly and comfortable places to be...knowing full well the time, effort and sacrifice needed to make that happen.

Let me offer 10 real-world tips that have helped me in regard to leading our neighborhood association. I hope they can help you as well:

1. Utilize the workshops provided by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination. They're free, and offer many tips and

tools in directing your neighborhood association. The newsletter in your hands is also chock-full of information from public meetings to land usage. Spread the word to your board and neighbors. While you're at it, adopt your own area in conjunction with that city program. **2. Be creative.** When planning a neighborhood gathering, whether it's a summer block party, Neighborhood Night Out or winter gathering, work on themes and "hooks" that make your event different. For instance, we called our spring landscaping/clean-up day "Rock & Roll on Sentido." We planted trees and xeriscape

plants, raked rock and rolled boulders into place. The only thing missing was a D.J. – maybe next year. **3. Advertise.** Whether in neighborhood newsletters or in flyers door-to-door, communicate with your community. If you're having poor attendance, consider how you're advertising events and meetings. Use several different methods of communicating your message. It works for Nike. A well-informed neighborhood is a great place to live.

4. Empower your board. Allow them the privilege of leading and contributing to different events, including dues collections and neighbor arbitrations. Gently assign different members to head up events or committees. Although it is more work, it's also more rewarding (emphasize the rewards!). **5. Be inclusive.** Work at involving more participants in each event. Don't surround yourself with clones; involve people who are different from you. I was trying to explain something to a neighbor of middle-eastern descent. The language barrier was insurmountable until I asked another board member to help translate. The result was more participation and much better communication! **6. Shoot for the moon.** Set a written agenda at each board meeting that is nearly unreachable in both time and resources. Challenge people to really make a difference and watch them step up to the plate. You may not make the moon, but if you fall short, you'll still make the stratosphere! **7. Don't be discouraged.** Disagreement isn't the biggest neighborhood association enemy, apathy is. Not everyone will share your vision – even those on the board with whom you are working most closely may disagree. Hold your vision in an open hand, not a closed fist. Don't take it personally if everybody doesn't follow. Realize that many folks simply want keep living their lives to themselves. **8. Get attention.** E-mail the Mayor and City Councilors – they actually want to hear from you. Create press releases for the media. Both of these things will add energy to your association's events. Our 2005 Neighborhood Night Out was covered on the evening news simply because we made it easy for them. Press releases let them know the whens, whats, wheres and whys.

9. Make relationships with area businesses. Let them know that your folks are the ones who shop at their stores. Many are happy to help you with door prizes and giveaways at each event or meeting. It also helps make your area a real community. **10. Plan to transition out of leadership.** Allow others the privilege of bringing in their own vision. Be observant of potential future leaders. Look for energy, gregariousness and a genuine care for people. And if you happen to have a neighbor by the name of George or Georgina Washington, take them to lunch.

(ONC Thanks Jim Myers for an excellent article.)



Sonora Homeowners Association President, Jim Myers, with Mayor Martin J. Chávez

NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP continued



**From The
Manager's Desk**

by Herb Howell

Herb Howell

**Questions About What
We Can Do**

The Office of Neighborhood Coordination is often asked questions that require further explanation to a broader audience. Two of the most frequently asked questions have to do with "Changing Boundaries" and "Political Endorsements." Each aspect seems to be unclear to a large number of people, in our city's neighborhoods.

After a recent consultation with the City of Albuquerque's Legal Department, I feel better prepared to be thorough about the City's stand on a neighborhood association endorsing a political candidate or becoming involved in political campaigns. There is nothing in the City Ordinance that prohibits such political activity. Now, there are two potential places where it might be prohibited.

If your neighborhood association by-laws make mention of political campaigns, either encouraging or prohibiting involvement, then that would serve as your guide, which trumps the O-92 Ordinance. Also, if your association is registered with the State of New Mexico Regulatory Commission, as a non-profit, or with the Federal entity classifying your association as a 501(C) 3 or 4, then you would be prohibited under those statutes; but not by the City. So, the limitations of a neighborhood association are not those imposed by this office, but by state or federal authorities. This position by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination was affirmed by the City of Albuquerque's Legal Department.

The changing of boundaries by a neighborhood association is successfully accomplished by the adherence of a number of steps. First ensure that your proposed change does

not come into conflict or produce an overlap situation with another neighborhood association. If you have questions in this regard, please feel free to call our office at **924-3905**. Next, create the proposed boundaries in straight lines, using major streets as dividing lines. This is preferred over some of the zigzag lines we sometimes encounter. The map makers are appreciative as it simplifies your own paperwork when writing a descriptive details.

Your next step is to gain the concurrence of your neighborhood association; either your board of directors or the general membership, depending upon the guidelines of your own by-laws. Then provide written notification to those members who are to be involved in the decisions to make the boundary changes become by-law changes. Again the notification is to be in accordance with the requirements of our own by-laws. Save a copy of your "dated" notification to submit with your by-law changes. Once your neighborhood's vote has been taken, then submit the by-law changes, that reflect your proposed boundary changes.

When your request has been reviewed and approved, then and only then do the boundary changes become official. We will send you a letter of confirmation of your boundary changes and by-law changes. Our office will then notify AGIS and request a change on the AGIS maps. I hope this process is a useful one and clears up any confusion about how to change the boundaries and accompanying by-laws of your neighborhood association.



**Neighborhood
Workshop Corner**

**Effective Officers Training
Workshop**

Tuesday, January 17, 2006

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Plaza Del Sol Hearing Room

This workshop is a combination version of our "President/Vice President's and

Board Training Workshops". Our staff will help you anticipate problems/issues in your neighborhood. Our intention is to provide the tools, skill development and problem solving activities to make you better leaders of meetings and a more proficient problem solver in your neighborhood.

**Land Use and Zoning
Workshop**

Saturday, January 21, 2006

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Plaza Del Sol Hearing Room

This completely revised workshop is designed to increase your knowledge and understanding of all the aspects of the Zoning and Housing Codes, land use Matters, Facilitation Issues at the various hearing boards as they relate to neighborhood areas. We utilize the Planning Department division managers, senior staff members and other Department staff to provide this informative training on how the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC) works with each hearing board and neighborhood associations on various projects.

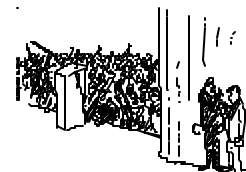
Effective Meetings Workshop

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.,

Plaza Del Sol Hearing Room

Conducting effective meetings begins well before the meeting date. Prior to the meeting the leader sets the agenda, establishes goals for the meeting, reviews past minutes...At the meeting the leader runs the meeting by sticking to the set agenda...After the meeting the evaluation takes place, did we follow the agenda...This is but a brief outline of what will be covered at this workshop—come prepared to discuss and share what makes your meetings successful.



NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP continued



A Message From The Mayor

Mayor Martin J. Chávez

Energy Legislation

Last summer the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 was signed into law - right here in Albuquerque. Many provisions of the new law are directed toward promoting alternative energy technologies such as wind, solar and bio-mass that promise to benefit our community and the entire country as well.

Because of our technical expertise, Albuquerque offers good working environment and track record in utilizing available alternative energy technologies, and I believe we are uniquely poised to lead the nation in clean energy success stories and toward national energy independence.

About twenty years ago, in an effort to recover and re-use an alternative fuel source, engines were installed at the Southside Water Reclamation Plant that can be fueled by the digester gases emitted during the water treatment process. These engines run generators that supply the plant with much of its electrical power needs.

Over the past few years, the City has been purchasing hybrid vehicles for its fleet to conserve energy and reduce emissions in the process.

And recently, a micro-turbine engine/generator was installed at the old Los Angeles Landfill that is fueled by the methane gas produced from the landfill's decomposing solid wastes. This generator can produce enough electrical power to operate the landfill's existing gas extraction system plus a small water remediation facility, and just recently became operational.

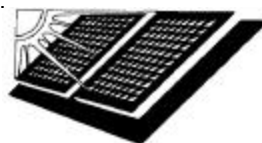
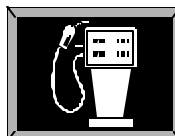
The energy legislation also makes it more feasible to exploit New Mexico's abundant wind resources to power electrical

generators. While the most favorable winds for electrical power generation in New Mexico occur on the eastern plains, a great deal of the research into wind generation technology takes place right here in town.

The bill also encourages the development of solar power potential as well. New Mexico probably receives as much solar energy per square foot as any other state in the union and Sandia Labs has been a leader in solar power development for years.

One solar generator currently being tested, called the Stirling Energy System (SES), is a zero emission energy source that features a 36 foot solar reflector to concentrate sunlight and produce the heat needed to power a generator. SES has plans to construct an 850 megawatt, 4,500 acre solar power generating project in the Mojave Desert that, when completed, will be the largest single solar facility in the world, capable of producing more power than all of the combined solar projects in the United States. When fully operational, the project will contain 20,000 Stirling units. The technical research being done here at Sandia Labs to test the generators employs people and helps establish our community as a leader in the alternative energy arena.

Incentives incorporated in the new energy law will make the implementation of projects utilizing alternative energy technologies, such as the ones described here, more accessible, affordable, and too good to pass up. It's important for our city and, indeed, our country, that we take advantage of the opportunities made possible by the passage of this landmark legislation.



Answer Key for Wastewater Utility Quiz on Page 14

1. About 85%. Water use in houses and apartments generate the vast majority of our wastewater.
2. One. The Southside Water Reclamation Plant treats all the wastewater generated by customers connected to the City sewer system.
3. About 1,650 miles of pipes crisscross the metropolitan area.
4. b - A byproduct of the wastewater treatment process. Albuquerque's biosolids contain low levels of heavy metals or other contaminants and are therefore of good quality for recycling.
5. d - All of the above. The City disposes of trash screened out of the wastewater as it enters the treatment plant in a landfill. Some of the biosolids or sludge from the treatment process is composted, and most of the biosolids are disposed of on open land. In the near future, the City plans to begin applying biosolids to rangelands as a way to improve soil quality.
6. True. Wastewater might be captured and recycled far from the Southside Water Reclamation Plant.
7. d - All of the above. The plant generates about 18,000 megawatts of electricity each year, which is enough to supply 3,000 homes. It supplies half of the plant's needs. This energy would otherwise cost about \$840,000 per year to purchase.

Fiscal Year 2006 Planning Projects

Look for area Sector Plan Development Updates on the Planning Department Website at:

<<http://www.cabq.gov/planning/advance/projects.html>>

Get Involved!



City Council

Council staff may be reached at **768-3100**. The agenda for an upcoming council meeting may be checked by calling **768-3100** after 1 p.m. on the Friday immediately prior to the council meeting. The City Council's fax number is **768-3227**. Agendas, Action Items and Summaries are available on the Council's webpage at www.cabq.gov/council/counsched.html.

A Message From Your City Council

General Obligation Bond Spending

On Tuesday, October 4, 2005, our city's voters approved **\$121.1 million** to be spent by the City of Albuquerque over the next two years to improve streets, parks and other public facilities throughout the city. Earlier in the year, the Albuquerque City Council and Mayor Chavez worked to negotiate a General Obligation (G.O.) bond package, which is the city's main way of paying for large construction projects. Approval of the package by the city's voters will not increase Albuquerque's tax rate because new bonds are sold at the same time that old bonds are paid off. In this past election, all ten "general-obligation bond" questions on the election ballot won significant support from Albuquerque's voters – some by a more than 2 to 1 margin. Projects afforded by the approved bond questions are as follows:

Fire, Police and Emergency Management Bonds: \$6,565,000 will be utilized to design, develop, study, construct, modernize, automate, renovate, rehabilitate, recondition, landscape, furnish, enhance and improve public safety facilities in Albuquerque. This money will also be used to acquire land, vehicles, apparatus, and equipment for the municipal office of emergency management, police and fire department facilities throughout the city.

Senior, Family, Community Center and Community Enhancement Project Bonds: \$10,963,550 will be used to design, develop, construct, demolish, equip, renovate, rehabilitate, expand, repair, study, landscape, streetscape, enhance and improve community enhancement projects such as community and senior centers in our City. The funding will also be used to acquire land for City-owned community centers including those for families, youth and senior citizens.

Parks and Recreation Bonds: \$30,677,235 will be used to design, develop, construct, rehabilitate, renovate, expand, furnish, landscape, study, protect, enhance and improve park and recreation facilities throughout our city. This funding will also be used to acquire land, vehicles and equipment for park and recreational facilities, including public parks and facilities within those parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, open space, bikeways, bosque lands and trails in Albuquerque.

Public Facilities, Equipment and System Modernization Bonds: \$9,166,500 will be used to equip, improve, acquire, design, survey, develop, construct, rehabilitate, renovate, modernize, expand, enhance, upgrade and improve public buildings, facilities and systems throughout Albuquerque.

Library Bonds: \$3,853,150 will be used by the City of Albuquerque to design, develop, construct, reconstruct, renovate, rehabilitate, modernize, automate, upgrade, landscape and improve library facilities in our City. The funding will also be used to acquire books, media and equipment for local public libraries.

Street Bonds: \$39,492,515 - the largest of all allocations within the bond program, street bond funding will be used to study, design, develop, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, automate, modernize, sign, enhance, landscape and improve street infrastructure within the city. Funding from this allocation will also be used to acquire land and equipment for Albuquerque's streets and roads, interstate roadways and interchanges, medians, trails, bikeways, walkways, sidewalks, railroad crossings and bridges.

Public Transportation Bonds: \$6,110,500 will be used to design, develop, construct, rehabilitate, renovate, recondition, modernize, automate, study, furnish, enhance and improve public transportation in Albuquerque. Funding from this segment will also be used to

acquire land, vehicles and equipment for public transportation facilities in our community.

Storm Sewer System Bonds: \$8,080,000 will be used to design, develop, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, expand, enhance, study, monitor and improve storm sewer systems in Albuquerque and also to acquire land and equipment for such facilities.





Zoo and Biological Park Bonds: \$3,989,500 will be spent on work to study, design, develop, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, repair, refurbish, modernize, expand, enhance and otherwise improve exhibits, furnishings and equipment for Albuquerque's zoo, botanic garden and aquarium.

Museum Bonds: \$2,227,050 will be used by the City to design, develop, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, modernize, expand, enhance, upgrade, equip and furnish, and collect and acquire artifacts and exhibits, for the City's museums.

In addition to the election's bond questions, Albuquerque voters also approved two policy referendums. Beginning with the November 15, 2005 run-off election for the District 9 City Council seat, the first policy will require voters in Albuquerque Municipal elections present one current valid identification card containing the voter's name and photograph upon voting. The second policy, the "Open and Ethical Elections" initiative, will allow municipal candidates (beginning in the Fall election of 2007) to voluntarily have their campaigns funded through public financing. Participating candidates will be required to obtain \$5.00 contributions from a minimum of 1% of registered voters in their seat. In turn, they will receive funding equal to \$1.00 per registered voter in the district.

The City Council's newest members will be featured in next month's edition of the Neighborhood News.



21 - 30	1 - 12	13 - 17	18 - 31
Monday, November 21 •City Council – 5 p.m.	Thursday, December 1 •North Valley Coalition – 7 p.m.	Tuesday, December 13 •GABAC – 4:30 p.m.	Monday, December 19 •City Council – 5 p.m.
Tuesday, November 22 •BOA – 9 a.m.	Monday, December 5 •City Council – 5 p.m.	Wednesday, December 14 •DRB – 9 a.m. •LUCC – 3 p.m. •AQCB – 5:15 p.m. •SWAN – 6:30 p.m.	Tuesday, December 20 •BOA – 9 a.m. •GARTC – 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 23 •DRB – 9 a.m. •EPC Pre-Hearing – 1:30 p.m.	Wednesday, December 7 •AAB – 9 a.m. •DRB – 9 a.m.	Thursday, December 15 •EPC – 8:30 a.m. •SVCNA – 6:30 p.m.	Wednesday, December 21 •DRB – 9 a.m. •ADC – 3 p.m.
 Th., November 24, Fri., November 25 Thanksgiving Break City Offices Closed	Thursday, December 8 •GWPB – 8:30 a.m. •TAB – 9:30 a.m. •EPC Study Session – 4 p.m. •POC – 4 p.m.		Monday, December 26 City Offices Closed
Monday, November 28* •City Council – 5 p.m. (*if necessary)	Monday, December 12 •City Council – 5 p.m.		Wednesday, December 28 •EPC – Pre-Hearing – 1:30 p.m. •LEPC – 9 a.m.
Wednesday, November 30 •DRB – 9 a.m. •LEPC – 9 a.m.			

2005 CALENDAR LEGEND

AAB - Airport Advisory Board, Aviation Department Executive Conference Room, **244-7700**
ACTMI - Advisory Committee on Transit for the Mobility Impaired - Sun Van Conference Room, 601 Yale SE, **764-8932**
ADC - Albuquerque Development Commission - Hearing Room, Basement Level, Plaza del Sol, 600 Second Street NW
AQCB - Air Quality Control Board, Council Commission Chambers, Basement Level, City Hall
BOA - Board of Appeals, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, Basement Level, 600 Second St. NW
City Council - Council/Commission Chambers, Basement Level, City Hall
District 4 Coalition - Cherry Hills Library, 6901 Barstow NE
District 6 Coalition - Cesar Chavez Community Center, 7505 Kathryn SE
District 7 Coalition - Sandia High School, Teacher's Lounge, 7801 Candelaria NE
District 8 Coalition - James Joseph Dwyer Memorial Substation, 12700 Montgomery NE
DRB -Development Review Board, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, 600 Second Street NW, Basement Level
EPC - Environmental Planning Commission, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, 600 Second St. NW, Basement Level
EPC Pre-Hearing - Environmental Planning Commission, Plaza del Sol, 600 Second St. NW, Third Fl. Conf. Room
EPC Study Session - Environmental Planning Commission, Plaza del Sol, 600 Second Street NW, Third Fl. Conf. Room
GABAC - Greater Albuquerque Bicycling Advisory Committee, City Hall, Room 302, **768-2680**
GARTC - Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee - Locations vary, call **768-5308** for information
GWPB - Ground Water Protection Board - Room 302 City/County Building, 400 Marquette NW
LEPC - Local Emergency Planning Committee - 11510 Sunset Gardens SW, **833-7300** or <www.lepcabqbernc.org> for more information
LUCC - Landmarks and Urban Conservation Commission, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, 600 Second St. NW, Basement Level
North Valley Coalition - Los Griegos Multi-Service Center, 1231 Candelaria NW
POC - Police Oversight Commission, City/County Building, Lower Level, 1 Civic Plaza, 5th and Marquette
SVCNA - South Valley Coalition of Neighborhoods Associations - South Valley BSCO Sheriff's Substation, 2039 Isleta SW.
SWAN - South West Alliance of Neighborhoods, Alamosa Multi-Service Center, 6900 Gonzales SW
TAB - Transit Advisory Board - Sun Van Conference Room, 601 Yale SE, **764-6121**
Westside Coalition - Taylor Ranch Community Center, 4900 Kachina NW
ZHE - Zoning Hearing Examiner, Plaza del Sol Hearing Room, Basement Level, 600 Second St. NW

EPC Hearing Notice

Publication of EPC hearing notices in the *Albuquerque Journal* will now occur on the **Wednesday - 22 days prior** to the public hearing on the **3rd Thursday of the month**. The hearing notice includes the time, place and date of the hearing along with a brief description of each application on the agenda. Previously, hearing notices were published 15 days before the public hearing. The reason for this change is to meet the advertising requirements for EPC study sessions which occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Rather than advertising the hearing and study session separately, a single notice will be prepared to advertise both. Contact the Planning Department at **924-3860** if you have questions.

Neighborhood Alert – Be aware that public comments at EPC Meetings have a time limitation due to the length of the EPC Hearings. The **48-Hour Rule of the EPC**: All written materials and other documents shall be submitted to the Planning Dept. no later than **9 a.m.** on the **Tuesday** of the Public Hearing week. For an Appeal Hearing – no communication with EPC is allowed within five days of the Public Hearing.

In order to make maximum use of the following information please note:

- Scan the entire list to see if your neighborhood association has a case this month.
- The name and phone number of the developer/agent is listed so that you can easily contact them should you have any questions.
- The assigned staff planner is identified with each agenda item should you need additional information (i.e., check on the actual placement of your case on the agenda). All staff may be reached at **924-3860**.
- On the day of the Hearing, call Planning at **924-3860** and the receptionist will give you the status of the Hearing.
- Staff reports are available at the Planning Office beginning at **3 p.m.** on the **Thursday** prior to the EPC Hearing.

On the **2nd Thursday of each month**, the EPC has a Study Session to review the applications scheduled for the all-day public hearing which occurs on the **3rd Thursday of each month**. As with the Public Hearing, **the public is invited** to attend the Study Sessions; however, Study Sessions do not provide an open forum. Discussion is limited to staff and the EPC. Study Sessions regularly begin at **4 p.m.** in the Plaza del Sol Hearing Room. Please call the Planning Department at **924-3860** to confirm the Study Session schedule as adjustments are made occasionally.

Please note that the **Pre-Hearing Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, November 23, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Planning Conference Room, Third Floor. The **EPC Public Hearing** will be held on **Thursday, December 15, 2005 at 8:30 a.m.** in the Plaza del Sol (basement) Hearing Room for the following cases:

Northeast

No Association(s) (neighborhood association); 05EPC-01690 and 01691, Project #1004531 (case #'s); Approximately nine (9) acre(s) located on the west side of Jefferson Street NE between McLeod Road NE and I-25 Freeway (**location of request**); F-7 (**zone atlas page #**); Briscoe Architects, P.C. at **262-0193**, agent for McLeod Business Properties c/o Mark Bates (**applicant or agency and phone #**); Requests approval of an EPC Site Development Plan for Building Permit for an office complex consisting of two (2) separate office buildings adjacent to an existing 50,000 square foot office building (**action requested**); Catalina Lehner at **924-3935 (city staff planner)**.

Alvarado Park, Classic Uptown, Inez, Jerry Cline Park, Mark Twain, Quigley Park, Snow Heights, Uptown Progress Team, Winrock South and Zuni; 05EPC-01693, Project #1004532; Approximately five (5) acre(s) located on the east side of Louisiana Boulevard NE between Constitution Avenue NE; J-19; Fanning Bard Tatum Architects at **883-5200**, agent for Ashcraft Real Estate and Development; Requests approval of an EPC Site Development Plan for Building Permit for an office complex consisting of two (2) separate office buildings adjacent to an existing 50,000 square foot office building; Stephanie Shumsky at **924-3933**.

Northwest

No Association(s); 05EPC-01692, Project #1002962; Approximately six (6) acre(s) located on the east side of Rainbow Boulevard NW between Woodmont Avenue NW; C-9; J.S. Rogers Architects, PC at **247-1168**, agent for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Requests approval of an Zone Map Amendment from R-D to SU-1 for Church and Related Uses for a proposed development of the property for a Meetinghouse for the LDS Church; David Stallworth at **924-3940**.



Don Newton

He's back!

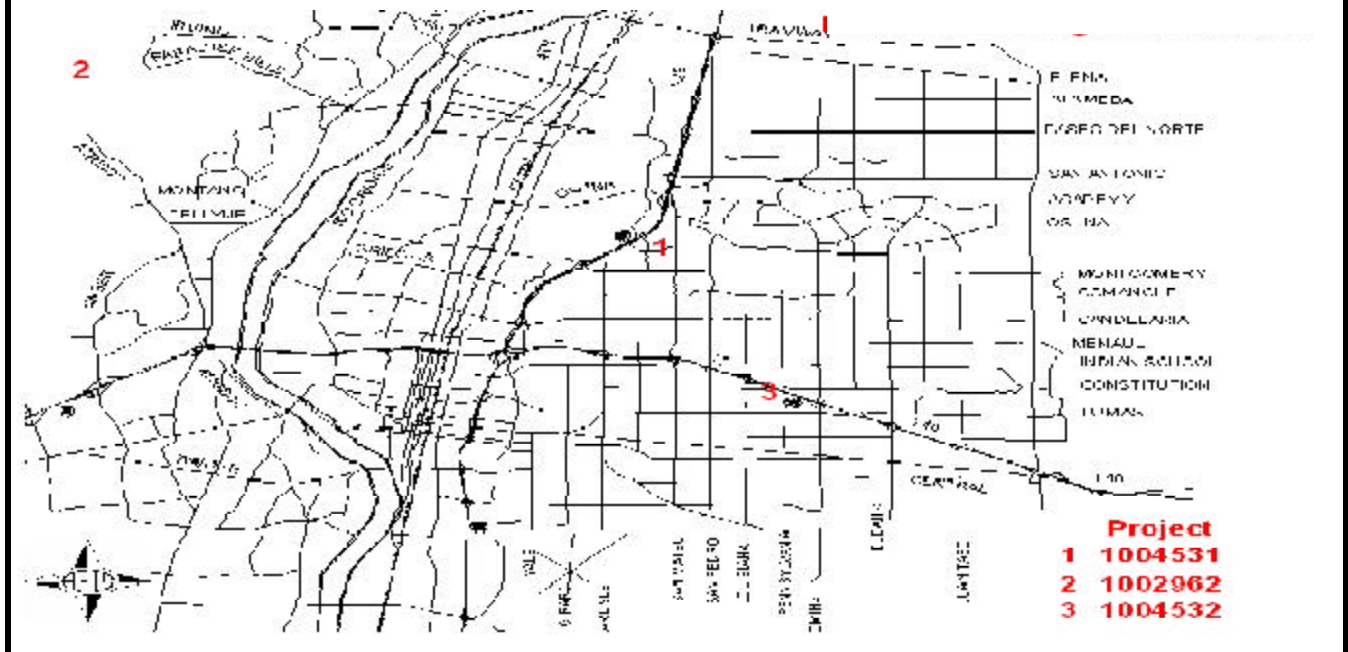
The Taylor Ranch Community Center's loss is the Office of Neighborhood Coordination's gain. Don Newton has rejoined the staff at ONC as a Neighborhood Liaison. Don will be working with neighborhood associations, developers and contractors to improve communication between all entities when new development is being planned. You can reach Don in ONC at **924-3908** or drop by Plaza del Sol, basement level, at 600 Second Street NW.

Don assures us he has left the Taylor Ranch Community Center in the very capable hands of Dave Pulliam who has been named the center's new director.

Welcome back, Don!

(Map Not To Scale For Reference Purposes Only)

December 2005 EPC Agenda Locations



Tricentennial Update

Dear Albuquerque Residents,

This December, we approach the 300th holiday season for the City. To highlight this festive time in our Tricentennial, we would like to encourage all Albuquerque citizens to dress up for the holidays by participating in the Festival of Illumination.

Every December, homes in Albuquerque glow with festive lights – electric and candle-powered. Historically, neighborhood associations have played a large role in coordinating these decorations, especially on December 24. This year, we are asking everyone in the Albuquerque metropolitan area to light their outdoor lights and candles by **6 p.m. on December 24**, to honor our city and its diversity of cultures and traditions.

It is our goal to illuminate Albuquerque as never before, to take an aerial photograph of our illuminated city, AND to set a Guinness record. The Festival of Illumination will be publicized in the near future. Residents will be asked to fill out a pledge card indicating how many lights, candles, or luminarias they will be lighting outside their home this coming December 24.

We are asking the neighborhood associations to help us in one of two ways:

1. Encourage people to send in a residential pledge card to the Albuquerque Tricentennial, which is available on our website at www.albuquerque300.org

- OR -

2. Send a single pledge card for the entire neighborhood. Have an officer of the neighborhood association complete the pledge card below and submit it electronically or by mail. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you pledge as a neighborhood, do notify your neighborhood residents not to submit residential pledge cards as individuals. This will inflate our light count toward a Guinness record.

Pledge cards can be downloaded from our website at www.albuquerque300.org. Also, check the website for information on free sand, as well as youth groups who will be selling holiday supplies and luminarias as part of their fundraising efforts this holiday season.

Thank you for all you do to make Albuquerque a wonderful place to live. Thank you for participating in the Festival of Illumination.



Sincerely,
 Jerry Geist, Chair, Albuquerque Tricentennial
 Elaine Fiber, Chair, Festival of Illumination
 Sandra Richardson, Committee Member



CITY SCOOP

News From City Departments



Albuquerque Fire Department

Submitted by Lt. Lynn Ruele

Luminaria Safety

The 2005 holiday season is quickly approaching. With that, many unique New Mexico traditions will take place including the use of luminarias. The history of luminarias goes back to the Spaniards. Centuries ago, the Spaniards got the idea from Chinese lanterns in the Philippines and brought the idea to the New World.

In the 16th Century New Mexicans would light small bonfires, called luminarias, along paths to lead people to Midnight Mass on the last night of La Posada. In the early 19th Century the Chinese lanterns were being used but proved to be too expensive and the use of paper bags came into place. The farilitos, Spanish for "little lanterns", took the place of the small bonfires and Chinese lanterns. The tradition is deeply embedded in New Mexico to this day.

Whether you call them faralitos or luminarias - please be safe this holiday season by following these Albuquerque Fire Department guidelines:

- It's best to use cathedral candles, they burn slower and don't drip.
- Make sure there's plenty of sand in the bag so they don't tip over.
- Keep the bags away from all flammable and combustible materials.
- Don't place under a patio, too close to a structure or near vegetation.
- It's best to place on concrete or asphalt and have a water supply nearby.
- Children, under 16 years old are discouraged from lighting the candles. Use caution when lighting and keep lighting materials out of the reach and sight of young children.
- Keep an eye on luminarias while they're burning and completely extinguish if they'll be unattended.
- If a fire does occur immediately leave your home and don't return. Call **911** after leaving the house.

The Albuquerque Fire Department conducts free Family and Friends CPR training. Family and Friends is a 2.5 hour class that teaches people how to recognize the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and the correct technique of performing CPR. For more information on this program, call AFD Captain Mike **Reizatz** 833-7317.

APD Crime Prevention 505-924-3600

Submitted by Steve Sink

Travel Preparation And Safety

There are traditional times each year that many of us choose to travel to see family and friends as well as enjoy a vacation. Generally, when we go on trips we are less likely to focus on our surroundings and safety. Most of the security resources you depend on at the office or at home are nonexistent when you

travel. Your greatest resource is yourself – take precautions, vary your routes, keep a low profile and be alert to suspicious behavior and circumstances. The following tips for securing your residence and travel safety should be observed before and during a trip.

Securing Your Residence and Preparing for Travel – Reduce Criminal Opportunity:

- Ask a trusted neighbor to watch your residence and report suspicious activity.
- If possible, have a trusted friend or family member stay at your home.
- Install automatic timers on lights, TV's and radios to give the impression someone is home.
- Do not have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If you have a rollout trash dumpster, have a neighbor place it in the street on pick up day and return it that evening. Also, ask them to park a vehicle in the driveway when ever possible and collect your mail and newspapers.
- Be extra cautious about locking all doors and windows.
- Make sure trees and shrubs are trimmed to allow for good natural surveillance of your property.
- Make arrangements to have exterior lights on each night.
- Each entrance should have solid core or metal doors and deadbolt locks.
- All primary window locks should be operational and secondary locks should be installed.
- Let neighbors, family and friends know when you plan to return from a trip.

Travel and Hotel/Motel Safety:

- Always be aware of your surroundings and trust your instincts.
- Lock all personal items in the trunk or away from view – roll up windows, lock doors and take your keys.
- Park in well lit areas with a lot of activity. Park as close to an entrance as possible.
- Rooms should have solid core or metal doors and an eye viewer. Change rooms if these items are worn out or not functioning properly.
- Always verify who's at your door. If you are not expecting a visitor, call the front desk if the person claims to be with the facility and do not open the door to strangers or solicitors.
- If you observe suspicious behavior notify hotel/motel personnel or call the police.
- Look for establishments that have the unit doors and walkways enclosed as well as electronic card access verses the outdated door key.
- Turn on the TV or radio when you are away from the room and leave a light on.
- Request a room closest to the main office – avoid end units. Higher floors are preferred.
- Identify emergency exits and discuss hotel/motel safety and security with family members.
- Keep valuables in the hotel/motel safe or leave them at home.
- Carry a minimum amount of luggage and never leave them unattended.
- Carry only those personal items necessary for a particular trip. Use traveler's checks or credit cards when ever possible. Leave local credit cards at home.
- Avoid carrying a purse whenever possible. Place money and credit cards in a front or jacket pocket. If you must carry a purse, carry it close to your body with flap facing inward and place strap around your shoulder (never wrap it around your body or neck).
- Don't display your room key or leave them in places they can be easily stolen.

Office of Emergency Management

Submitted by Bruce Sickles, EOC Manager - 833-7247

Emergency Preparedness: "Shelter-In-Place"

In our article last month, Emergency Preparedness "Are you Ready?" Brian Fields provided valuable information on what to have ready if you should have to evacuate. Now, let's go a step farther and talk about what to do if you can't evacuate but instead must shelter-in-place. Oh yes, you'll still need to have your "Go Kit" available.

Shelter-in-place means to take cover in a building you are already in rather than to evacuate during a chemical or hazardous materials release or in the event of a natural disaster or terrorism incident.

When there is an emergency local authorities (usually the police or fire department) will be in control of the situation, and will decide the appropriate course of action. If authorities decide sheltering-in-place is warranted, you may hear the announcement on local television or radio, or directly from your local police or fire department.

The best place to shelter-in-place is in your own home. You know the layout and you know where everything you may need is located. If you are not near your home, try a store, school or church. Even your car is better than remaining outside. If you are at work, the building you work in should have a shelter-in-place plan.

When the notification comes from authorities to begin sheltering-in-place, the following steps should be taken to ensure safety:

If you are at home:

- If you are outdoors, quickly move everyone present indoors. Don't forget your pets!
- Close and lock all doors and windows leading outside.
- Turn off all heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems; turn the inlets to the "closed" position.
- Put out fires in the fireplace and close the fireplace damper.
- Turn off all exhaust fans, such as those found in kitchens and bathrooms.
- Close as many interior doors as possible.
- If possible, move to an interior room with no windows or doors leading outside. Bathrooms or master bedrooms with an attached bathroom are often a good choice. Don't use the basement because many dangerous chemicals are heavier than air and will settle there.
- Seal off all doors, windows, ceiling vents, and other sources of outside air in the room you are sheltering in. Use plastic sheeting, wax paper, aluminum foil or similar material. Secure them in place with heavy tape, such as duct tape.
- Place a wet towel at the base of the door to cover the opening. Secure with tape.
- Stay off the telephone unless it is an absolute emergency.
- Listen to the TV or radio for further information or instructions.
- If you think dangerous fumes have entered your home, place a wet cloth over your nose and mouth and take shallow breaths.

If you are caught in your car during a chemical emergency:**• Stay In The Car!**

- Close all windows, vents, air conditioning, and ventilation systems.
- If possible, drive away from any visible gas or smoke clouds.
- Obey all directions from law enforcement or public safety personnel directing traffic.
- Turn on your radio for instructions and updates.

If you are in a building or institution (at work):

- Your building should already have a shelter-in-place plan. Pass the alert to key personnel to activate the plan.
- Turn all heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems off, or set to 100% re-circulation.
- Do not use elevators. They tend to "pump" air in from the outside as they travel up and down.
- Follow all other steps as if you were sheltering at home. Continue with these procedures until you are given an all clear by local authorities, either in person or TV or radio.

What else should you know?

DO NOT attempt to pick up your children from school or childcare. The facility they are at should have a shelter-in-place plan. Besides, they may not even be in harm's way and you may not have time to get them out safely. The same is true for nursing homes and hospitals.

Does shelter in-place really work?

Yes! Shelter-in-place is an effective solution when an evacuation of an affected area is not possible due to time constraints or other factors. Studies have shown that when implemented correctly, very few people have been seriously injured while sheltering-in-place. The rate of serious injury is lower than with evacuation.

Transit**Participate in the 2005-2006 Clean Air Challenge**

The 2005-2006 Clean Air Challenge officially got underway on Saturday, November 5. Pollution in Albuquerque is at its worst during the winter months. By pledging to bus, bike, walk or carpool between November and February, you are doing your part to reduce pollution in Albuquerque.

By completing a Clean Air Challenge card, you will also be registered to win great prizes. This year our sponsors have ~~donated more than~~ **\$12,000** in cash and prizes to be used during the campaign. People can win bicycles, balloon rides, television sets, stereos, round-trip AMTRAK tickets to Los Angeles, gift certificates for dinner and much more. Anyone can also download a Clean Air Challenge card from our website at:

<www.cabq.gov/transit>

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority

Submitted by Patti Watson

Construction Under Way On San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project

The San Juan-Chama Drinking Water project will divert San Juan-Chama surface water from the Rio Grande and purify it for drinking. Currently under construction are:

- A new, state-of-the-art water treatment plant at Osuna Road and Chappell Road NE.
- A diversion dam located on the Rio Grande River south of the Alameda Blvd. Bridge.
- Six different pipelines: the Eastside Pipeline, the East Valley Pipeline, the Rio Grande Crossing Pipeline, the Westside Pipeline, the Don Pipeline-South Segment, and the College Pipeline-Middle Segment. Details about each pipeline are included below.

Eastside Pipeline

This pipeline begins on Chappell Road at the North Diversion Channel, heads east on Singer Boulevard to Jefferson Road, heads south in the Jefferson right-of-way, then turns north within the south I-25 right-of-way to a point east of PF Chang's restaurant, then tunnels east under I-25 to Osuna Road, continues east on Osuna past San Mateo Boulevard, then stops at the western edge of the Arroyo del Oso Golf Course (just west of San Pedro). All work west of I-25 is scheduled to be completed by December. Work east of I-25 (Osuna past San Mateo to the Arroyo del Oso Golf Course) is scheduled to start in December and last through May 2006.

East Valley Pipeline

This pipeline begins adjacent to the Alameda Drain at Second Street south of Candelaria Road, extends north across Second Street, then east on Candelaria to Edith Boulevard, then north on Edith to the Alameda Lateral, northeast along Montano Road, then east on Montano to Renaissance Boulevard. Crews began work on Edith Boulevard, and are now in the portion of Edith Blvd. between Rankin Road and Comanche/Griegos. Traffic is being maintained with one lane in each direction, but can be delayed in either direction when crews are turning heavy equipment. Crews are scheduled to continue working on Edith through February/March of 2006.

Rio Grande Crossing Pipeline

This pipeline begins at Sequoia Road west of Alamogordo Drive, continues east on Sequoia, down the west bluff, and crosses the Rio Grande and its Bosque to the west end of Campbell Road. Crews have completed the pipeline on Sequoia heading down the west bluff, and are now working in the Rio Grande River.

Westside Pipeline

This pipeline begins at the intersection of Atrisco and Ladera roads, continues south on Atrisco to Sequoia Road, turns east at Sequoia and continues across Coors Blvd. to west of Alamogordo Drive. This pipeline will connect with the Rio Grande Crossing Pipeline. Crews have completed construction on Sequoia west of Coors Blvd. and are expected to complete the pipeline on Sequoia east of Coors

in November. At the end of November, crews will start laying pipeline west of Grogan to the Ladera Dam. Work on this pipeline is expected to be completed in December.

Don Pipeline-South Segment

This project, which begins at the College Reservoir, heads east on Tierra Pintada St., then on 98th Street, under I-40, to Bluewater, then to 110th Street, connecting to the Don Reservoir, is done! A final "walk through" is scheduled for early November. Congratulations to the contractor, ERS/Shumate, and the consultant, HDR, for finishing this pipeline!

College Pipeline-Middle Segment

This pipeline begins on 98th Street, extends east on old Ouray Road, and winds through the southern edge of Ladera Golf Course to connect to the Westside pipeline at Atrisco Road. Work is complete on most of 98th Street and old Ouray Road. The contractor is expected to complete the final section of the project, which will tie in to the Westside pipeline, this month.

Construction to Begin Soon on Two Additional Pipelines

Construction is scheduled to begin in mid to late November on **West Valley Pipeline**, which begins at the west end of Campbell Road, adjacent to the Rio Grande Bosque, and connects to the River Crossing project, continuing east in Campbell Road, crossing Rio Grande Blvd. to the Griegos Lateral, south along the Griegos Lateral, crossing Matthew Avenue to the

Alameda Drain, then running east along the Alameda Drain to 2nd Street to tie into the East Valley project. This project will result in an improved pedestrian/bike trail in the Bosque. Construction on this project will begin west of 12th Street.

Construction is also scheduled to begin in November on the **Raw Water Transmission Line Number 1**, which extends 3.3 miles from the Rio Grande River to Paseo Del Norte and the North Diversion Channel.

About the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority's San Juan-Chama Drinking Water will supply up to 70% of the metropolitan area's future water. San Juan-Chama water diverted from the river will be transported to a state-of-the-art treatment plant, from which purified water will be delivered to Albuquerque area homes and businesses. The overall project is scheduled to be completed in 2007.

For More Information or to Schedule a Presentation

If you would like to schedule a presentation on the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project for your group, please call Patti Watson or Shannon Jackson at **293-2000**. For more information about the project, visit our website at <www.sjcdinkingwater.org>. If you would like to be added to our drinking water project information list, call **242-ROAD (242-7623)** or e-mail <pattiw@cooneywatson.com>.



Forming concrete encasement on
54" welded steel pipe
near the East Bosque, looking east



Water Utility Department

Wastewater Utility Division

Submitted by Brynda Gutierrez

Test your Wastewater System Knowledge

See how many of the following questions you can answer correctly:

1. *What percentage of Albuquerque's wastewater comes from residences?*

Less than 25% about 30% about 50% about 85%

2. *How many wastewater treatment plants does the City of Albuquerque have?*

One Two Three Four

3. *How many miles of sewers serve Albuquerque wastewater customers?*

about 50 miles between 500 & 600 miles
between 1500 & 2000 miles more than 5000 miles

4. *Biosolids are:*

- a) Clumps of matter in untreated wastewater
- b) A byproduct of the wastewater treatment process
- c) Animals that have fossilized inside the treatment plant
- d) What grows in the Tupperware container in the refrigerator

5. *What happens to the waste products left over from the wastewater treatment process?*

- a) They are put in the landfill for disposal
- b) They are spread on open lands
- c) They are composted to make a soil conditioner
- d) All of the above

6. *The Wastewater Master Plan project is studying ways to capture wastewater and recycle it for turf irrigation and industrial use.*

True False

7. *How much electricity does the Southside Water Reclamation Plant (SWRP) generate each year?*

- a) As much as is used by 3000 homes in 1 year
- b) About 50% of SWRP's electricity needs
- c) The equivalent of about \$840,000 in electricity needs
- d) All of the above



(Answer Key on Page 6)

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Wins National Award

On October 25, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) honored the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility with its top management award, the Platinum Award for Sustained Competitiveness Achievement. The Utility was one of only fourteen utilities recognized nationally for their long-term excellence in utility management. The awards were presented at the AMWA Conference in Santa Fe.

"Being recognized through this award is a real honor for the Authority," stated Mark Sanchez, Executive Director of the Authority. "Our employees are working hard continuously to improve Utility operations to better serve our customers. And we are fortunate to have a strong water resource, conservation, and financial base to work from."

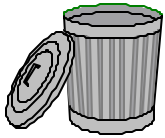
To be eligible for the Platinum award, the utility must have been awarded the AMWA's Gold Award, having met goals for efficiency, cost of operation and quality of service and having developed plans to maintain their infrastructure and ensure future water supplies. The ABC Water Utility won the Gold Award in 2001.



Roy Robinson, General Manager and Mark Sanchez, Executive Director, receiving the AMWA Platinum Award from AMWA President David Rager

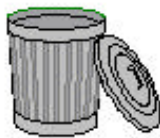
The City of Albuquerque does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, disability, age, gender, Vietnam Era or disabled veteran status, sexual orientation or medical condition in employment or in the provision of services.

If you have a disability and will need special assistance to benefit from any of the meetings, hearings or workshops, etc., appearing in this newsletter, contact the office sponsoring the event two weeks prior to the date of the meeting you plan to attend. When ever possible, TTY phone numbers will be listed. TTY users may call any phone number listed in this publication via Relay New Mexico at 1-800-659-8331.



Talkin' Trash

Submitted by Tina Trek



Weed and Anti-Litter Ordinance

The Weed and Anti-Litter Ordinance is intended to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the people of the City by prohibiting the maintenance or accumulation of those plants determined to be of major allergenic significance, or which constitute a fire hazard when collected, or which otherwise present a hazard or nuisance to inhabitants of the city.

Further, this article is intended to aid in the promotion and growth of native and other grasses and plants whose root structures tend to aid in stabilizing the soil while reducing dust. It is also intended that by prohibiting those methods for plant removal, which fail to differentiate between harmful and helpful plants and which tend to create the still greater problem of air pollution, the aforementioned purposes will be realized and accomplished. It is also intended to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the people of the City by prohibiting the throwing, depositing or accumulation of litter.

On **September 5, 2005** City Council adopted new legislation to expand the list of weeds that can be enforced. The following types of weeds are considered a hazard or nuisance:

1. Pigweed (*Amaranthus retroflexus*)
2. Russian Thistle (*Salsola pestifer*)
3. Ragweed (*Ambrosia* spp.)
4. Lambsquarter (*Kenopodium* spp.)
5. Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*)
6. London Rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*)
7. Flix Weed (*Descurainia sophia*)
8. Tansy Mustard (*Descurainia pinnata*)
9. Spurge
10. Silverleaf Nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*)
11. Puncture Vine
12. Field Bind Weed (*convolvulus arvensis*)
13. Purslane
14. Hoary Cress
15. Yellow Foxtail (*Setaria glauca*)
16. Green Foxtail (*Sorghum halepense*)

It is considered to be unlawful for an owner of any occupied or unoccupied lot or tract of land within the City to permit or maintain, including the area located between the property line and the middle of the alley adjacent to the property, and the area located between the property line and the curb, the area of any curbs or sidewalks located on the property and the area located ten feet outside the property line where there is no curb, any growth of weeds whose height, width or spread is greater than four inches, or any accumulation of weeds.

In those cases where the owner of any unoccupied lot or tract of land is a nonresident of the City or cannot be determined and compliance with the provisions set forth in the notice has not

occurred within ten days, the Mayor shall cause such weeds or litter to be cut and the cuttings or any accumulation of weeds or litter to be removed. If the owner of any such lot or tracts of land is notified in writing as provided and fails to comply with the provisions of this article within ten days, the Mayor may cause such weed and litter to be cut and the cutting and accumulations of weeds or litter removed. In any event, should it appear to be a matter of public necessity for the health or safety reasons, the Mayor may give notice that the weeds or litter must be cut and removed immediately in which event should there be noncompliance the Mayor is authorized to cause such weeds or litter to be cut and the cuttings or any accumulation of weeds or litter removed immediately. The actual cost of the cutting or removal of such weeds or litter plus any other penalties or costs allowed by law in connection therewith, under the circumstances herein set out, shall become a lien upon the property from which such weeds or litter were removed in the manner prescribed by law.

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be deemed guilty of a petty misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to fines and penalties to include a minimum fine of \$150.00. Community service may be imposed in lieu of or in addition to any such fine. Every violation is considered a separate offense.



Interested in beautifying your neighborhood? The Clean City Division in the Solid Waste Management Department and the Office of Neighborhood Coordination, Planning Department, have annual, \$200 stipends available to non-profit groups, such as neighborhood associations, Girls/Boys Scouts and individual APS campuses who wish to "Adopt An Area" within their vicinity. Call Clean Cities at **857-8060** for more information.

Keep Albuquerque Beautiful

Funding Opportunity

Neighborhood Streetscape Grant
Application deadline - **March 3, 2006**

This grant provides funding to neighborhood associations, clubs or civic groups that are interested in improving an eyesore area with a beautification project. This grant aims to encourage community pride and responsibility. For an application or further information, please call Keep Albuquerque Beautiful at **761-8334**.

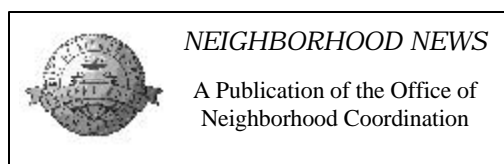


OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION
Planning Department
City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC), a division of the Planning Department, City of Albuquerque. Articles and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

**ONC reserves the right to edit
and/or reject any submissions.**

**** SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY
THE 1st OF EACH MONTH****



PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

Route to:

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
87101
PERMIT NO. 432

Mail to:

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
Martin J. Chavez, Mayor
James B. Lewis, Chief Adm. Officer
Ed Adams, P.E., Chief Operating Officer

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
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